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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information on Towns and Villages  
of Lower Silesia

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Wroclaw

2. "In Wroclaw, the Town Square (Rynek) and the Polytechnic School near Grunwald Bridge (Most Grunwaldzki) have been rebuilt. The houses which had been burnt, are being restored, but no new houses are under construction. The villa quarters of the city have also been restored. Party officials and work leaders are allotted flats in these districts.
3. "The problem of communication in Wroclaw is very difficult. The tramway lines are few and inadequate, and bus lines serve mainly the suburbs.
4. "A very popular spot of the city is the 'Olimpia' Sports Stadium, in the suburb of Sepolno. It accommodates 80,000 spectators. Thousands of people go to the Stadium every Saturday and Sunday.
5. "In Sadowa Street there is a prison which holds escapees from Poland, who have been caught by frontier guards. This four-story building has about 500 inmates, both men and women.
6. "In the northern part of the city is a shipyard (Stocznia Srodladowa).
7. "A school for ships' mechanics, Podstawowa Parostowowa Szkola Zeglugi, is at No. 10, Bruckner Street. The course lasts two years. There are about 120 pupils. The school runs its own mechanical workshops and also sends pupils to practice in various local factories and workshops.

Walbrzych

8. "Several village friends from Gnojno had mining jobs in Walbrzych. From time

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to time they visited their homes in Gnojno. These men were very dissatisfied with their earnings in the Walbrzych mines. They could not earn more than 800 zlotys a month; yet they had to spend for their food and lodging almost that much. Once a year they received an allotment of working clothes and shoes at a special official price.

9. "The re-emigrants from France are very unpopular among the miners, because they are too strongly pro-regime and try to impose on the others. In Walbrzych there are still many Germans: in some mines they constitute 20% or more of the personnel.
10. "A few young people studying in mining schools are also working in the mines at Walbrzych.

Jelenia Gora

11. "In Jelenia Gora, a big new power station is under construction. Its capacity is said to be 40, 000 volts. The power station is erected at the edge of the town in the direction of Cieplice.

12. "In Janowice, near Jelenia Gora, a paper factory is in operation.

13. [redacted] the dam at Pilchowice [redacted] had been constructed by the Germans. This dam is situated some 20 km southwest of Jelenia Gora; it is about 200 meters long and has four or five sluices. The dam supplies electricity for the agricultural districts of Lower Silesia.

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14. "A sailing center operated by the Sea League is located there. Preparatory summer courses for marine training are organized.

Strzelin

15. "The railway station of Strzelin is an important junction on the line from Wrocław, leading to Kladzko, Brzeg and Rychbach. In the town there is a sugar plant to which farmers from the whole district are obliged to deliver their sugar beet quotas.
16. "In the center of the town is a coeducational secondary school. In the north-western district is the district hospital. Strzelin has an open-air swimming pool which is in good condition; it was built by the Germans.
17. "South of the town are granite quarries, in which Army penal brigades are working. The quarries are probably mechanized. From the distance one sees in the area small wagons which seem to be pulled by electricity, and also some cranes. One also hears the continuous sound of mechanical saws and frequent explosions of dynamite.
18. "Between Strzelin and Zabkowice, trial diggings in search of coal deposits were taking place in April 53. [redacted] some coal was discovered but of a rather bad quality.
19. "Grotkow is a shopping center for the village Gnojno and other villages of the district. The town is connected with Opole by a regular autobus line. The town has an 11 year primary school, a Mechanical School, and a factory producing some sort of pipes. There is a town swimming pool.

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Dzierzoniow-Bielawa

20. "In the district of Dzierzoniow - Bielawa, many textile factories are in operation.

21. "In Dzierzoniow itself there are a number of important factories, e.g. Dzierzoniowskie Zakłady Wytworcze Urzadzen Radiowych (radio equipment). The town has a five year school for radio-mechanics; it is probably attached to the Pionier factory. The Dzierzoniow UB office is located on Ulica Radkiewicz.

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22. "In Dzierzoniow a sort of 'Jewish reservation' still exists. Even cinema posters are printed in Jewish letters [Hebrew or Yiddish?]. [redacted] most of the Jews in Dzierzoniow used to live in the Polish Eastern Territories that have been incorporated in the USSR. They include many professional men - doctors and lawyers. The percentage of pure Poles among the Dzierzoniow intelligentsia is fairly low. Many local offices, including UB posts, are held by Jews. [redacted] Many streets have Jewish names, e. g. Edelsztat Street, Street of the Heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto, Birobidjan Street. [redacted] the State has rented a nearby FGR to the local Jewish Committee of Dzierzoniow. Jews work the FGR and have renamed it 'Arbajzman'.

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23. "Dierzoniow is the center of the antique trade for Lower Silesia. Local Jews still do a good business buying and selling old furniture, pictures and carpets. It is said that these merchants have some contacts with the antique markets of Western Europe.
24. "The town of Bielawa receives water supplies from Jodlownik. The commune of Gnojno once investigated the problem of restoring its own water supply system. The local officials learned then that the installation for Bielawa had been badly built. The pumps which had been installed, were too weak, and the pipes insufficient. Water frequently broke the pipes, and water supplies in Bielawa were always short.

Nowa Ruda

25. "Nowa Ruda has a coal mine with three pits named 'Paist', 'Jan' and (probably) 'Boleslaw' [redacted]

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Olawa

26. "In Olawa some regular Soviet troops are stationed. [redacted]

Brzeg

27. "Some more important building in Brzeg are:  
The pedagogical lyceum, with boarders, on Slowianska Street,  
The Vocational Technical-Mechanical School, which is divided into various sections (including a dressmaking section for girls),  
A large tannery located on the right bank of the Oder River runs the well known Garbarnia sports club,  
The Slonce picture-house on the bank of the Oder River.
28. "Polish Army Engineers (Saperzy) are stationed in Brzeg; their strength is probably one battalion.
29. "West of the town near the railway line to Strzelin there is quite a large Soviet airfield. [redacted] on the airfield some Soviet MIG planes and four new jet bombers.
30. "Soviet officers are quartered in Brzeg. They live a secluded garrison life with their families, but are constantly seen in the town. In the quarter which has been assigned for their accomodation, there is a school for Soviet children.

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Gnojno Village

31. "The following compulsory quotas of agricultural deliveries were imposed on a 10-hectare farm in Gnojno for the 1953 harvest:

Wheat and rye:	3,500 kilograms
Potatoes:	2,500 kilograms
Sugar Beets:	2,000 kilograms
Pork Meat:	350 kilograms
Milk:	800 liters

The state paid the farmer 65 zlotys per hundredweight of rye; on the free market he could have gotten 350 zlotys per cwt of rye and 500-600 zlotys per cwt of wheat. For milk farmers received 60 groszy per liter. In a state dairy people had to pay 2.20 - 2.50 zlotys for one liter of milk. Some delivery items could be exchanged. For instance, 10 kilograms of pork could be replaced by 100 kilograms of grain. In the compulsory deliveries of pork, the farmers had to supply pigs of best quality, well fed and weighing at least 90 kgs live weight. Farmers try to keep extra 'contracted' pigs, which means that they undertake to deliver them also to the state voluntarily. The price is very profitable, at least twice as much as the official price paid for compulsory deliveries (compulsory deliveries: six zlotys per kg of live weight; contracted deliveries: 12-15 zlotys).

32. "A great campaign for collection of scrap was conducted in Gnojno in spring 1953. The schoolchildren were ordered to collect iron scrap, rags, glass and china."

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